



STATE OF MARYLAND

## DHMH PRESS RELEASE

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Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

*Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary*

*Office of Communications*

*Karen Black  
410-767-6490/91*

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **ADAA Celebrates the Accomplishments of Multitudes of Individuals Achieving Long Term Recovery: "Join the Voices of Recovery, Recovery Benefits Everyone!"**

BALTIMORE, MD (September 8, 2011) --Officials from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) joined leaders from other state and federal agencies, directors of treatment programs and community advocates to kick off National Recovery Month during an event at the Arbutus Recreational Center.

"Every person in recovery represents a triumph over the burden of drug addiction," said Renata J. Henry, DHMH Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health Services. "Today's event celebrates the many successes that happen every day in Maryland."

As part of the ceremonies, Secretary Henry presented a proclamation from Governor Martin O'Malley declaring September as National Recovery Month in Maryland. She was joined by Dave Mineta, Deputy Director for Demand Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and Linda Hutchings from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the organization that has promoted this observance for the 22st year. Barbara Gordon, Emmy Award winning Writer, Producer and Author of "I'm Dancing as Fast as I Can" delivered the keynote address.

Recovery Month is a national observance that educates Americans that addiction treatment and mental health services can enable those with a substance use or mental disorder live healthy and rewarding lives. The observance's focus is to laud the gains made by those in recovery from these conditions.

In Maryland, investments in prevention, treatment, continuing care and recovery support services reduce substance use, homelessness and crime, and increase employment.

ADAA supports and recognize all who struggle with behavioral health disorders and their impact; salutes those who are in treatment and recovery; and acknowledges the important role that family, peer, faith and the community play in a recovery-oriented system of care.

More information on other Recovery Month events in Maryland is available on the ADAA web site [www.dhmh.md.gov/adaa](http://www.dhmh.md.gov/adaa) under "National Recovery Month Events".

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